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ECOLOGICAL EDUCATION IN TOMSK REGION

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The purpose of our work is to find out what environmental problems in the Tomsk region are and whether people are ready to get involved in solving them. We believe that the reason of numerous ecological problems is ignorant and wasteful human activity regarding nature, which is wrong in ecological terms and leads to the violation of the ecological balance. Consumer attitudes and, as a result, environmental degradation require the formation of the basics of ecological culture for people. So, nowadays environmental education issues have come to the fore and more attention is drawn to them.

First of all, in the Tomsk region there are problems associated with the activity of the Siberian Chemical Combine. Furthermore, the causes of the ecological problems in the extractive industry are oil and gas produced in the region. The point is that the Tomsk region occupies the area covered by the world's largest swamps, which makes the problem of polluted territories in oil production areas particularly acute. Additionally, almost the entire territory of the Tomsk region has the problem of potable water quality. Besides, there is also the environmental policy issue. Although various eco-events (conferences, festivals, contests, etc.) are designed to maximize the involvement of the residents for the formation of the ecological culture in the Tomsk region, the people are still passive.

In order to find out how people feel about environmental education and what they do to maintain environmental balance, we conducted a survey among the students of Tomsk state university. 43 young people aged 17–20, from both the Russian Federation and foreign countries participated in our survey. We have revealed that everyone is informed and got interested in environmental issues. Our respondents understand that the path to an eco-friendly lifestyle begins with them. However, from the survey we can conclude that even if environmental events are held in schools and universities, people do not usually take part in them. All people have their own excuses not to participate. Overall, to form and develop new eco-habits, which is an integral part of environmental education, more effort should be made by the local authorities.

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